Appl. No. 10/069,507 Amdt. Dated January 22, 2004 Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated January 20, 2004

REMARKS:

The omitted claims 1-17, which have been cancelled, have now been included in the foregoing list of claims. It is submitted that the claims are presented in ascending numerical order, and that all the requirements of the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment have been met.

CONCLUSION. It is submitted that the invention is presented in clear and concise patentable terms and the application is in condition for allowance. Prompt, favorable treatment of the application is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 50-0305. The Examiner is encouraged to call Robert J. Schneider at the direct number (312) 845-3919 with any questions that arise in connection with this application.

Respectfully submitted

Robert J. Schneider, Reg. No. 27,383

Dated: January 22, 2004 Attorneys for Applicants: Robert J. Schneider CHAPMAN AND CUTLER LLP 111 West Monroe Street, 16th Floor Chicago, IL 60603-4080 Telephone (312) 845-3919

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

Patent Application Ser. No.:

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I hereby certify that the attached correspondence, namely: Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, was transmitted by facsimile on the date listed above, to the U.S. Patent Office at the facsimile number listed above, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8.

Signature:

Typed Name of Person Signing this Certificate: Brenda A. Walton

January 22, 2004

Date of Signature